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NSC BRIEFING

8 November 1954

"NEW" SOVIET PLANES

- I. Bad weather cancelled the scheduled Moscow fly-past of 7 November. However, this is appropriate time to forewarn against a possible "dope" story on new Soviet airplanes, such as the affair of the "IL-38" and "TU-200" of some months ago.
 - A. The publishers of Aviation Week have provided D/I USAF with photographs purporting to show two new Soviet aircraft designs--one them a delta-wing jet fighter.
 - B. Since a considerable volume of recent reports have alleged Soviet development of delta-wing aircraft (which have decided advantages at supersonic speeds) these pictures--which are poor in quality--have been carefully scrutinized by the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright/Patterson Air Force Base.
 - C. The delta "fighter" embodied a sharply swept-back wing which, except for the sweep of the trailing edge, resembles Western delta-wing prototypes.
 - D. The other photo showed a "bomber", with tapered or moderately swept-back wings, vertical stabilizer and a probable navigation bombing radome fitted forward on the underside of the fuselage.
 - E. Analysis shows that the two photographs have characteristics in common with photographs of three bombers and one fighter previously procured by Aviation Week from

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1. Only one picture of each type of plane received -
2. Small image-size on relatively large negative--
3. Pictures basically silhouettes -
4. Jumbled or inconsistent perspective -
5. Lack of detail -

F. Maximum enlargements of the two photographs do not provide detail sufficient to establish either the authenticity of the photographs or the genuineness of the aircraft portrayed.

G. On the basis of these findings and the basis of previous investigations, it is believed that, as with the "Il-38" and "TU-200", Aviation Week is the victim of another fraud and that US intelligence has not been scooped.



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